



MISSISSIPPI STATE PERSONNEL BOARD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MISSISSIPPI STATE PERSONNEL BOARD APPROVES AGENCY REORGANIZATIONS, REDUCTIONS IN FORCE

June 17, 2010, JACKSON, Miss.— The Mississippi State Personnel Board today approved requests from the Mississippi Department of Human Services and the Mississippi Department of Mental Health for reorganization and reductions in force based on shortage of funds and material changes in duties and organization at the agencies.

According to the Department of Human Services, the approved reorganization and reduction in force complies with the Fiscal Year 2011 Appropriation Bill (HB 1644), which mandates the elimination of 248 positions at the agency. The reduction in force affects 195 positions at Oakley Training School, including 56 vacant positions, as well as 53 additional vacant positions assigned to sub-agencies of DHS.

The Department of Mental Health requested a reduction in force of 160 positions, as well as 22 vacant positions, at crisis centers in Corinth, Batesville, Laurel, Cleveland and Brookhaven. The agency stated that the reduction in force and reorganization are necessary to utilize the flexibility in the management of its crisis centers provided by the Legislature in House Bill 965 of the Second Extraordinary Session of 2009, which was amended during the 2010 Regular Session, and Senate Bill 3143 of the 2010 Regular Session. DMH has determined that contracting with private

companies for five of its crisis centers would provide the same quality care at a lower cost to the state.

Based on a 24% reduction in general fund appropriations in Fiscal Year 2011 from Fiscal Year 2010, the Department of Mental Health also requested a reduction in force of 16 positions at the Mississippi Adolescent Center.

“The Mississippi State Personnel Board has determined that the Mississippi Department of Human Services and the Mississippi Department of Mental Health have followed the proper policies and procedures for implementing their reductions in force and reorganization plans based on shortage of funds and a material change in duties and organization,” said Lynn Fitch, Executive Director of the Mississippi State Personnel Board.

The Mississippi State Personnel Board serves as the human capital agency for more than 30,000 public employees, and also houses the Personal Service Contract Review Board and Employee Appeals Board. For more information, please visit <http://www.mspb.ms.gov>.